GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:135
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2002
DELAY IN ANNOUNCEMENT OF MSP
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the miserable condition of farmers due to late announcement of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various agricultural crops has highlighted the need to announce the same before the sowing season begins;

(b) if so, the action stipulated in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken, if any to promote diversification of crops?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): It has been the endeavour of the Government to announce the Minimum Supportprices for major agricultural Commodities before sowing season to enable the farmers to take investment decisions. However, there has been some delay in some years in the announcement of the Prices due to administrative reasons.

(c): The Government is aware of the need for crop diversification and the issue has beendiscussed at various fora. Diversification of crops dos not only mean shifting of crops but also includes Horticultural Crops, Live Stocks, Dairy and Fisheries.The supportive measures for achieving crop diversification include reforms in marketing, balance between MSPs of differentcrops, Crops Insurance, Farm Forestry/Agro Forestry, Development of High Yielding anddisease and pest resistant varieties and Conservation of Soil and Natural Resources requiring dovetailing of various schemes for a longer period.